

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition            ) Application No. C-3005  
from residents of the Rushville        )  
exchange, served by Great Plains        )  
Communications, requesting            ) DISMISSED  
extended area service (EAS) to        )  
the Hay Springs exchange, served        )  
by Great Plains Communications.        ) Entered: October 7, 2003

BY THE COMMISSION:

On July 16, 2003, the Commission received a petition from the residents of the Rushville exchange, requesting extended area service (EAS) to the Hay Springs exchange. On August 26, 2003, the Commission verified that the petition contained a sufficient number of signatures. As required by Rule 002.27C3 of the Commission Telecommunications Rules and Regulations, Title 291, Chapter 5, a point-to-point usage study was commenced to determine if a community of interest exists.

Rule 002.27C3 sets forth two criteria which must be satisfied, based on data from the most recent three-month period, for an EAS petition to proceed: 1) an average of five or more calls per customer per month must be made to the petitioned exchange, and 2) more than 50 percent of the customers must make two or more calls per month to the petitioned exchange.

The results of the usage study indicate that no such community of interest exists. During the first month studied (July 2003) an average of four calls were made by each Rushville resident to Hay Springs. During the second and third months studied (August and September 2003) an average of five calls were made by each Rushville resident to Hay Springs. In only two of the three months studied did Rushville residents make an average of five or more calls per month per customer; therefore, the first criteria established by the Commission's rules was not satisfied.

In addition, the usage study indicates the second criteria was also not fulfilled. During the first month, only 43 percent of Rushville residents made two or more calls to Hay Springs. During months two and three, only 44 percent and 47 percent of Rushville residents made two or more calls to Hay Springs, respectively. Therefore, in none of the three months did 50 percent of Hay Springs residents make two or more calls to Rushville, as required by the rule.

Pursuant to Rule 002.27C3, failure to satisfy these two criteria requires dismissal of the petition.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-3005 be, and it is hereby, dismissed.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 7th day of October, 2003.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST:

Executive Director